EVERY MAN
HIS OWN
RUPTURE CURER;
OR, THE
TRUE METHOD
OF
Reducing RUPTURES,
AND APPLYING THE
ELASTIC TRUSS.

With Several TESTIMONIES to the Merits of Mr. BRAND's PATENT ELASTIC TRUSSES,

AND

Many Authenticated CASES of the moſt Extraordinary CURES.

By ROBERT BRAND,
Truſs-Maker to His Majeſty's Royal Hoſpital at Greenwich.

The THIRD EDITION.

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MDCCLXXIV.

BOSTON MEDICAL
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TO

Mr. HUNTER.

SIR,

SINCE it is principally to you I am obliged for my knowledge in the reduction of Ruptures, I cannot with so much propriety dedicate the following treatise to any other person. Added to this, the consideration of that generosity and friendship, which you have, on many occasions, testified towards me, prompts me to seize the opportunity of confessing my gratitude; at the same time I am happy that even the most censorious caviller cannot pretend

that

that this dedication and acknowledgement of your goodneſs proceeds from any unworthy or ſelf-intereſted motive.

I have nothing to aſk of the World but candour: from you Sir, I am aſſured of meeting with it in the moſt refined ſenſe.

I am, SIR,

With the moſt unfeigned Reſpect,

Your much obliged, and

Very humble Servant,

Long-Acre.

ROBERT BRAND.

ROBERT BRAND's INVENTION.

GEORGE THE THIRD, by the Grace of GOD; of Great-Britain, France and Ireland, KING, Defender of the FAITH, and ſo forth, to ALL to whom theſe preſents ſhall come, Greeting.

WHEREAS ROBERT BRAND of LONG-ACRE, TRUSS-MAKER, has, by his Petition, Humbly Repreſented unto Us, that he hath by long Study, Application, and Expence, in trying Experiments, and particularly on himſelf, found out and invented a new Inſtrument or Machine, which he calls a Traverſe, Elaſtick Truſs or Bandage, for the relief of Perſons of either Sex, or any Age, who are afflicted with Ruptures either in the Groin or Navel, and which is of great relief to any Perſon afflicted with ſuch Diſorder, and ſits with greater eaſe on the Patient, and greatly varies from any Inſtrument or Machine hitherto invented for that Diſorder; Certificates of which he hath in his cuſtody, of divers eminent Phyſicians and Surgeons, and others reſiding in London and other Parts of Great Britain: That in regard he is the firſt and ſole Inventor

of the ſaid Inſtrument or Machine, and as he apprehends the ſame will be of Public Uſe and Benefit to our Subjects; he therefore moſt humbly prayed Us, that We would be graciouſly pleaſed to grant unto him, his Executors, Adminiſtrators and Aſſigns, Our Royal Letters Patent, for the ſole Making and Vending the ſaid Inſtrument or Machine, called the Traverſe, Elaſtick Truſs or Bandage, in that Part of Our Kingdom of Great Britain called England, Our Dominion of Wales, and Town of Berwick upon Tweed, and alſo in Our Plantations and Colonies abroad, for the Term of Fourteen Years, according to the Statute in that Caſe made and provided; We being willing to give Encouragement to all Arts and Inventions which may be for the Public Good, are graciouſly pleaſed to condeſcend to the Petitioner's Requeſt:

KNOW ye therefore, that We of Our eſpecial grace, certain Knowledge and mere Motive, HAVE Given and Granted, and by theſe Preſents, for Us, Our Heirs and Succeſſors, DO Give and Grant unto the ſaid ROBERT BRAND, his Executors, Adminiſtrators and Aſſigns, and every of them, by himſelf and themſelves, or by his and their Deputy, or Deputies, Servants, or Agents, or any others as he the ſaid ROBERT BRAND, his Executors, Adminiſtrators or Aſſigns, ſhall at any time agree with, and no others, from time to time, and at all times hereafter during the term of years herein expreſſed, ſhall, and lawfully may, Make, Uſe, Exerciſe, and Vend his ſaid Invention, within that part of Our Kingdom of Great Britain called England, Our Dominion of Wales, and Town of Berwick upon Tweed, and alſo in Our Plantations and Colonies abroad, in

ſuch

ſuch manner as to him the ſaid Robert Brand, his Executors, Adminiſtrators or Aſſigns, or any of them ſhall in their directions ſeem meet:

AND, that he the ſaid Robert Brand, his Executors, Adminiſtrators and Aſſigns, ſhall and lawfully, may have and enjoy the whole Profit, Benefit, Commodity, and Advantage, from time to time, coming, growing, accrueing and ariſing, by reaſon of the ſaid Invention, for and during the Term of Years herein mentioned, To Have, Hold, Exerciſe and Enjoy the ſaid Licence, Power, Priviledges and Advantages, herein before Granted or mentioned to be Granted unto the ſaid Robert Brand, his Executors, Adminiſtrators, and Aſſigns, for and during, and unto the full End and Term of Fourteen Years, from the Date of theſe Preſents next and immediately enſuing, and fully to be complete and ended, according to the Statute, in ſuch Caſe made and provided.

AND to the End that he the ſaid Robert Brand, his Executors, Adminiſtrators and Aſſigns, and every of them, may have and enjoy the full Benefit, and the Sole Uſe and Exerciſe of the ſaid Invention; according to Our Gracious Intention, herein before declared, We do by theſe Preſents, for Us, Our Heirs and Succeſſors, Require and Strictly Command, all and every Perſon, and Perſons, Bodies Politic, and Corporate, and all Others Our Subjects whatſoever, of what Eſtate, Quality, Degree, Name or Condition ſoever they be, within that ſaid part of Our Kingdom of Great Britain called ENGLAND, Our Dominion of WALES, and Town of BERWICK upon TWEED, and alſo in

Our Plantations and Colonies Abroad, aforeſaid, that neither they nor any of them, at any time during the Continuance of the ſaid Term of Fourteen Years, hereby Granted, either Directly or Indirectly do Make, Uſe, or put in Practice the ſaid Invention, or any Part of the ſame ſo attained unto by the ſaid Robert Brand, as aforeſaid, nor in anywiſe Counterfeit, Imitate or Reſemble the ſame: Nor ſhall make, or cauſe to be made, any Addition thereunto, or Subſtraction from the ſame, whereby to pretend himſelf or themſelves the Inventor, or Inventors, Deviſor, or Deviſors thereof, without the Licence, Conſent or Agreement of the ſaid Robert Brand, his Executors, Adminiſtrators or Aſſigns, in Writing under his or their Hands and Seals, firſt had and obtained in that behalf, upon ſuch Pains or Penalties, as can or may be juſtly Inflicted on ſuch Offenders, for their Contempt of this Our Royal Command. And further to be anſwerable to the ſaid Robert Brand, his Executors, Adminiſtrators and Aſſigns, according to Law, for his and their Damages thereby Occaſioned.

AND MOREOVER, We do by theſe Preſents for Us, our Heirs and Succeſſors, Will and Command all, and Singular, the Juſtices of the Peace, Mayors, Sheriffs, Bailiffs, Conſtables and Headboroughs, and all other Officers, and Miniſters whatſoever, of Us, Our Heirs and Succeſſors, for the time being, that they or any of them Do not nor ſhall at any time hereafter, during the ſaid Term hereby Granted, in anywiſe MOLEST, Trouble or Hinder the ſaid ROBERT BRAND, his Executors, Adminiſtrators or Aſſigns, or any of them, or his or their Deputies, Servants, or Agents, in or about the due and Lawful Uſe or Exer-

ciſe

ciſe of the aforeſaid Invention, or any thing relating thereto.

AND LASTLY, We do by theſe Preſents, for Us, Our Heirs and Succeſſors, Grant unto the ſaid ROBERT BRAND, his Executors, Adminiſtrators, and Aſſigns, that theſe Our Letters Patent or the Inrolment or Exemplification thereof, ſhall be in, and by all things, Good, Firm, Valid, Sufficient and Effectual in the Law, according to the true Intent and Meaning thereof, and ſhall be Taken, Conſtrued, and Adjudged in the moſt Favourable and Beneficial Senſe, for the beſt Advantage of the ſaid ROBERT BRAND, his Executors, Adminiſtrators and Aſſigns, as well in all Our Courts of Record, as Elſewhere, and by all and Singular, the Officers and Miniſters whatſoever of Us, Our Heirs and Succeſſors, in that Part of Our ſaid Kingdom of Great BRITAIN called ENGLAND, Our Dominion of WALES, and Town of BERWICK upon TWEED, and alſo in our Plantations and Colonies abroad aforeſaid; and amongſt all, and every, the Subjects of Us, Our Heirs and Succeſſors whatſoever, and whereſoever; notwithſtanding, the not full and certain Deſcribing the Nature or Quality of the ſaid Invention, or of the Materials thereto conducing and belonging.

IN WITNESS whereof, We have Cauſed Theſe Our Letters to be made Patent.

WITNESS Our SELF at Weſtminſter,
The Tenth Day of Auguſt,
In the Eleventh Year of Our REIGN.

By Writ of Privy SEAL. COCKS.

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EVERY MAN
HIS OWN
RUPTURE CURER.

How to diſtinguiſh a RUPTURE.

A RUPTURE is a deſcent of the inteſtines or omentum, commonly known by the names of the gut and caul; when from their ſituation, they form an unnatural tumor or ſwelling. Ruptures are more frequently in the groin than in any other part of the body; they at firſt appear no bigger than a nut; ſometimes they are hardly perceptible; yet, by degrees they increaſe in bulk, even to the prodigious ſize of thirty-two inches in circumference; inſomuch, that it becomes impoſſible for the patient to walk without

exceſſive

exceſſive pain, from the weight and largeneſs of the Rupture. Theſe are eaſily reduced, if timely application is made, by laying the patient on his back, and gently compreſſing them with the hand.

The umbilical, or as it is more commonly called, the Navel Rupture, makes its appearance in the ſame manner as the others: it is generally cured in children, but ſeldom perfectly cured in grown perſons; at leaſt, only a palliated cure can be expected.

The Fœminal Rupture is near the thigh, appears as others do, with this difference, that it is in the beginning leſs perceptible or troubleſome, but increaſes prodigiouſly: I have even ſeen it extend from the os illium, to the centre of the os pubis, and deſcend to the loweſt extremity of the vagina, and then fall into the thigh. It is ſo extremely incommoding, that the perſon can ſcarcely ſit upright, or get out of bed; nor is any eaſe to be obtained but in a lying-down poſture.

Ruptures of every kind are very dangerous, from childhood to decrepid age. Sometimes they give no pain, yet on a change of weather, they become very troublesome: at other times, they will be attended with weakneſs, gripings, and violent cholics, ſtrangulations, vomiting of excrements, faintings, mortifications, convulſions, and a moſt painful death. In ſome of the above caſes, an operation is the laſt reſource, (in which the patient undergoes the moſt excruciating pain) and is more frequently attended with death than ſucceſs, even when performed by the moſt ſkilful ſurgeons.

After this account of Ruptures, it will be proper to ſhew from what cauſes they are produced; and to point out the methods by which they may be prevented. All ſorts of ſickneſs and lingering diſtempers, have a tendency to produce them. Women are very ſubject to have Ruptures, through hard labour in child-bearing: colds have the ſame effect, from the violent coughs they occaſion; and what increaſes the danger is the frequent exceſs of relaxing remedies, taken at thoſe times; which

weaken, in an extraordinary degree, the whole vital ſyſtem. Vomits often occaſion Ruptures, becauſe they too violently ſtrain the fibres: they ariſe too from eating ſuch food as produces coſtiveneſs *, and cauſe ſtrainings, &c. Sea-ſickneſs is dangerous, from the violent effort of Nature in vomiting. Exceſs in all ſorts of exerciſe may occaſion Ruptures; in ſhort, every unnatural exertion of ſtrength puts Nature out of her courſe, and cauſes accidents of this kind which are frequently never got the better of.

Many perſons have Ruptures, and do not know it. To be certain, however, all the cavities of the belly ought to be examined, whether there is pain or not, as it is poſſible to have one or two without being ſenſible of any: obſerve whether the navel puſhes forwards; if it does, put the hand on the ſwelling to reduce it into its natural place; after which, cough, and, if it reappears, it is a Rupture.

* The kitchen-garden affords the beſt phyſic to prevent or remove coſtiveneſs; for medicines too often have a great tendency to bring on what they are intended to cure.

My Elaſtic Truſs is intended only for ſuch Ruptures in the groin and ſcrotum, as may be returned into the abdomen; but I make others of a different conſtruction to ſuit the various circumſtances of any hernial tumors.

The firſt time I publiſhed my opinion concerning Ruptures, I was determined to render my truſſes much eaſier for patients than any in uſe. Experience has now convinced me that they are. This may indeed be urged, and would perhaps be admitted as a good reaſon for laying my method before the public: but I have other reaſons to plead in my behalf.

In the firſt place, I think that I have conſiderably and materially improved my Truſs and Navel-bandage, and the method of applying them; and have rendered it more certain.

In the ſecond place, I find, that what I ſaid of them has not been ſo clearly and perfectly underſtood as I could have wiſhed; and in conſequence either of brevity and obſcurity on my part, or miſapprehenſion on that of ſome of my readers, I have been ſubjected to frequent and

troubleſome correſpondences on the ſubject.

In the third place, ſome of both ſexes, who have had relief, and even ſome few gentlemen who are candid among the ſurgical operators, have requeſted this publication.

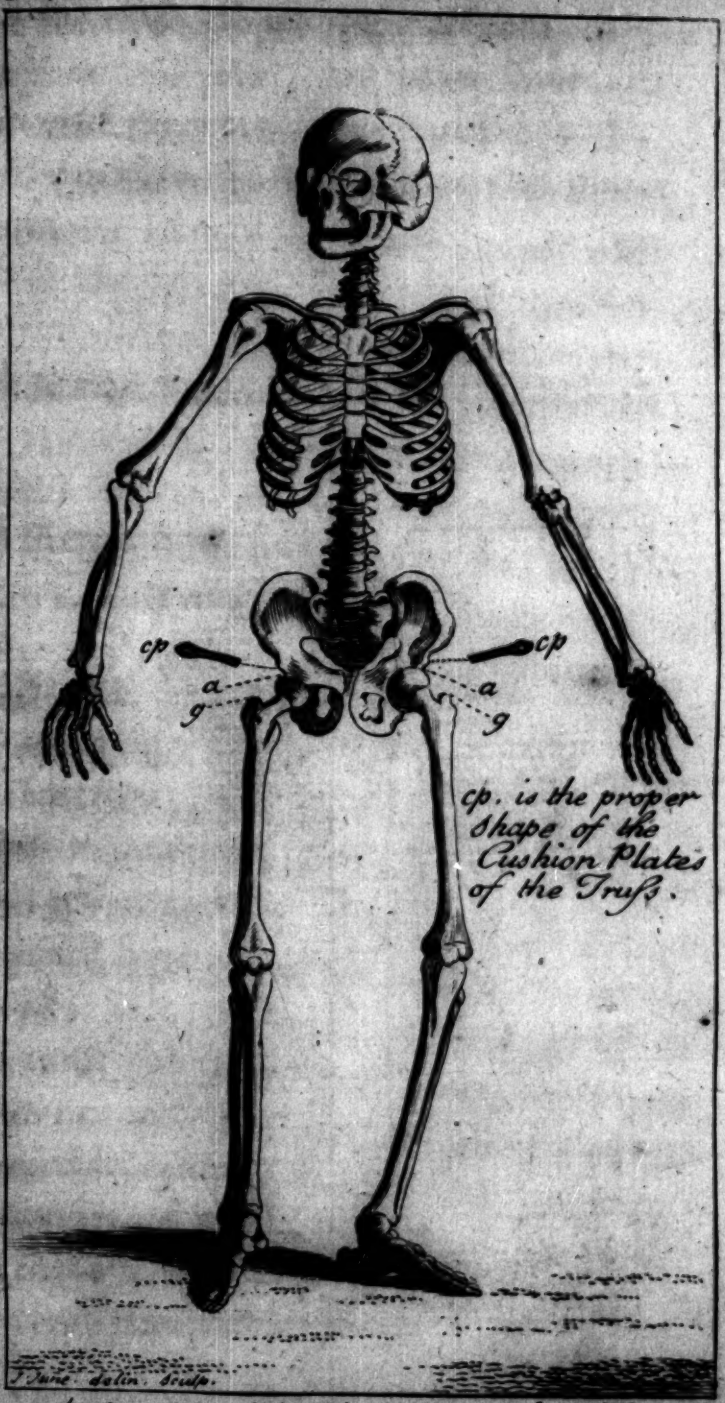
The METHOD *of Reducing* RUPTURES, *and applying Truſſes.*

BEFORE I give any directions how to apply my Truſs, it may be proper to ſay ſomething with regard to the ſafeſt and eaſieſt manner of reducing the inteſtine, when fallen down. The following is the method I have always practiſed with great ſucceſs:

I muſt too premiſe, that I have ſome hopes my readers will not entertain a leſs favourable opinion of me, if I avoid the pompoſity of thoſe who have wrote on this ſubject; as I will not endeavour to raiſe my reputation on the ſound of words, and

torture

No 1.



a a. the Juncture of the Thigh Bones. g g. Great Trochanter

torture language for phraſes not generally underſtood, merely becauſe the ſymptoms of the diſorder happen to differ in ſome trifling reſpects.

If the Rupture is much enlarged, or painful, it will be of great ſervice to the patient, before the reduction is attempted, to take a gentle cooling purgative, ſuch as a decoction of Tamarinds with Sena, or a ſolution of Salts and Manna; and if he is of a plethoric or full habit of body, to take away a moderate quantity of blood will be proper; at the ſame time, the parts ſhould be fomented with a piece of flannel wrung out of cold water.

After theſe preparations, you ſhould proceed in the following manner: Lay the patient upon his back in ſuch a poſture that his buttocks may be conſiderably higher than his head, as by that means the bowels that are within the belly will fall more towards the breaſt, and not only give way to what is to be returned, but be of ſome aſſiſtance to the reduction. You muſt then examine carefully as to the ſituation of the teſticles; and, if you find they are forced up towards the ſides of the ſcrotum by the

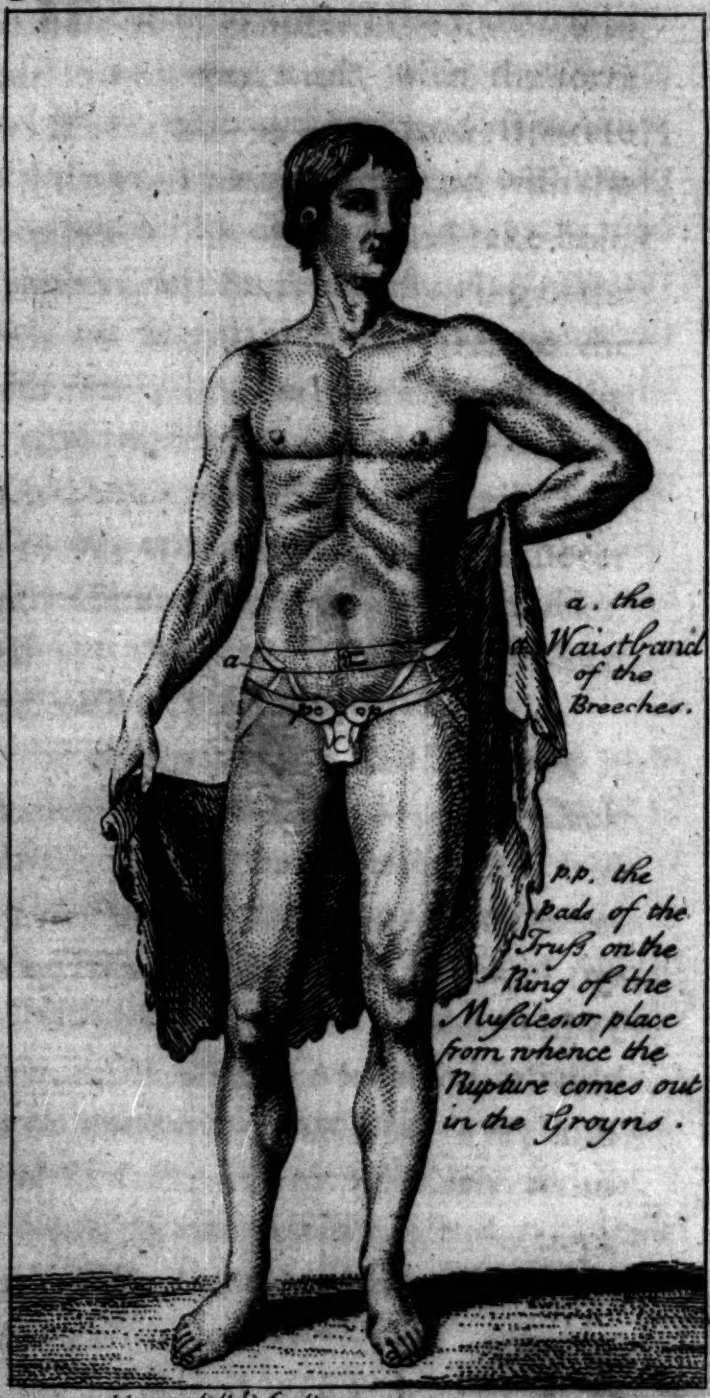
ſize

ſize of the Rupture, you muſt be very cautious not to ſqueeze them in the attempt. If you find them compreſſed at the bottom of the ſcrotum, you muſt, with the fore-finger and thumb of one hand ſeparate them from the ruptured part, and with the ſame fingers of the other hand take hold of the upper part that is next the ring of the muſcles, or the place from whence the Rupture comes out, and work it gently in, in the ſame manner as you obſerve women do with a cow's teats when they milk her. By obſerving this method, you will never be apt to ſtrain the rings of the muſcles, nor hurt the inteſtine, ſo as to occaſion an inflammation of any of theſe parts.

As to the application of the Truſs, it will be more convenient to put it ſlack round the patient's body before he is laid down; as, by his getting up after the reduction, there might be ſome riſque of the bowel falling down again. Take hold of each end of the ſpring, and open it wide enough to receive his body ſide-ways; and after you have got the bowel fairly reduced, apply the cuſhion of the Truſs (p. p. No. 2.) upon the rings or orifice from

whence

No 2.


a. the Waistband of the Breeches.
p.p. the Pads of the Truss on the Ring of the Muscles, or place from whence the Rupture comes out in the Groyns.
Mure delin. Sculp.

whence the bowel came out. It muſt have a gentle hold of the upper part of the os pubis or ſharebone; but take care it is not placed too high or too low: the ſpring will be a direction, which ſhould come round the os ilium, and cloſe to the juncture of the thigh bones (*aa* juncture of the thigh-bones; *gg* great trochanter of the thigh-bones; and *c p* the proper ſhape of the cuſhion-plates of the Truſs, ſee plate, No. 1.) touch the rump juſt where the cliſt of the buttocks begins; which is the middle of the os ſacrum (ſee plate 3, *os ſacrum*, the back view). The Truſs muſt be made ſo tight, as to make it ſit cloſe, otherwiſe it will neither do its office, nor be eaſy to the wearer.

Always keep under the cuſhion four fold of old coarſe linen, which will keep the part cool and eaſy, and prevent the cuſhion from being ſpoiled by the moiſture of the ſkin. It will be a great addition to the Truſs, if, for ſix or ſeven weeks, or longer (that is to ſay, till the patient has completed his cure, which, if he has youth on his ſide, may poſſibly be in two months; of which, indeed, I have ſeen ſome inſtan-

ces,

ces, but then the patient has been very obſervant of the rules preſcribed him;) the parts are bathed with cold lime water every night and morning, which may be done conveniently in the following manner: Take a piece of large linen cloth, fold it up pretty thick, ſo as to be about ſix or ſeven inches ſquare, a few ſtitches may be put into it, to keep the folds together; dip it into a baſon of cold water, (but, that you may not wet the Truſs, looſe it, and lay the pad or cuſhion that was in the groin, up to the navel, out of the way of the water) then ſqueeze and apply it to the ſcrotum and groin, and as it loſes its coldneſs dip it in the water again and again, which ſhould be continued for half an hour at a time: It is more proper that this ſhould be done when the patient is naked in bed. It is likewiſe neceſſary, that the patient's breeches ſhould be very long in the thighs, ſo as to allow the waiſt-band to come up on the pelvices above the Truſs; for if it bear thereon, it will add ſo much to the preſſure, as to make it very uneaſy.

I muſt

I muſt here adviſe my reader, that in examining any thing like a rupture, he muſt be careful not to miſtake a ſwelling of the ſpermatic chord, or in the groin, for one; as by handling any thing of that kind roughly, he may not only give the patient an exquiſite deal of pain, but do great miſchief. If it is really a rupture, gentle means, without being in too great a hurry, will anſwer beſt. A very gentle preſſure of the fingers in an erect poſture will ſometimes cauſe it diſappear: but if this ſhould fail, lay the patient on his back; then rub your fingers upwards and downwards obliquely from the os ilium to the os pubis. This muſt be continued for a conſiderable time; but if it ſhould not remove it, but ſtill continue to the touch as at firſt, the patient muſt remain in the ſame ſituation, have the part fomented, and the above operation again performed: After which, ſhould it ſtill continue hard, it is certainly no rupture *.

I have

* When a ſurgeon meaſures a patient for a Truſs, he is to take it round very cloſe to the juncture of the thigh-bone, which is the proper place for the Truſs

I have been frequently ſhocked at the cruelty with which I have ſeen Surgeons uſe their Patients, merely by miſtaking a ſwelling for a rupture.—On theſe occaſions I have remonſtrated;—but, as I was not bred a ſurgeon, my counſel was treated with contempt, although they quickly found their endeavours in that way were ineffectual.

It may not here be improper to obſerve, that my knowledge in theſe matters took its firſt riſe from being afflicted with a rupture myſelf. I tried all the different kinds of Truſſes that had been uſed and recommended by ſurgeons for many years back, but found the beſt of them ſubject to many inconveniencies. However, as I was originally a mechanic, I ſet to work with an intention to avoid thoſe inconveniencies I had experienced; and after trying ſeveral different new forms, I at laſt hit

to be worn; then ſending the number of inches that the meaſure contains to the truſs-maker, he never can make an error; but he muſt, too, be informed on which ſide the rupture is; whether it is double or ſingle, or whether it is only in one groin, or in both groins, ſo as to deſcend as low as the teſticles, or the groins only.

upon that which I now offer to the public, and which has given ſo much ſatisfaction to all who have uſed it. As to any farther knowledge I have of Ruptures, I am obliged to ſome gentlemen of the faculty, particularly Dr. Hunter, Dr. Livingſton, and Dr. Barry. As the ſurgeons of former times appear very ridiculous in this enlightened age, in rejecting Friar Jaques's new method of cutting for the ſtone,, for no other reaſon but becauſe he was not a regular-bred ſurgeon, I hope no gentleman of the faculty will condemn my truſs, till he can prove its deficiency, and till he has compared it very narrowly with others that are now in uſe. The recommendation of thoſe who have experienced its benefit (which ſome thouſands in the dominions of Britain, France, Italy, Germany, Holland, and Portugal, have done) would perhaps be ſufficient; but it is to be remembered, that many people who are ſubject to this diſorder being fond of concealing it, never mention any thing of my Truſs, even though they have been cured by it. However, my being conſtituted Truſs-Maker to his Majeſty's Royal Hoſ-

pital at Greenwich; when Mr. William Blackey, of the College of Surgeons at Paris; and Mr. Eddiſon, of Hanover-ſtreet, Long-Acre, with a letter of recommendation ſigned by a great number of *regular-bred* ſurgeons, ſome of them too the moſt eminent in the profeſſion in London, were candidates in oppoſition to me; cannot fail to give the public a juſt idea of its merit. Theſe gentlemen, it is well known, ſtood a fair trial with me every day, almoſt for two months, before the phyſicians and ſurgeons of the Royal Hoſpital made their report of the different merits of the candidates; on which I was appointed Elaſtic Truſs-maker by the Honourable Board of Directors of his Majeſty's Royal Hoſpital.

I think it would be here an unpardonable offence to Society, not to inform my readers, that to this day a ſurgeon of the greateſt eminence recommends a *ſhoemaker* to all his ruptured patients to make the Truſſes for them; though I am very certain he does not know iron from ſteel, when it is made out of the common ſizes

of the bars. This I have learned from ſeveral ſmiths, ſome of whom the ſeller has employed ever ſince he was converted from a *ſhoemaker* to a Truſs-maker. This is the *eminent ſurgeon* and the *ſhoemaker*, that Counſellor Brand, at May's Hill, Greenwich, mentions in his letter to me, which is inſerted for the uſe of the public, amongſt others ſent me; together with certificates of the efficacy of my Truſſes, above all others now in uſe.

LET-

LETTERS and TESTIMONIES relative to the Utility of the ELASTIC TRUSS, in the Cure of RUPTURES.

CERTIFICATE of Mr. FORBES, *Aberdeen.*

IN juſtice and gratitude to Robert Brand, Truſs-maker in Aberdeen, I acknowledge that I have had a rupture for theſe five years: That about that time I was an invalid, doing garriſon duty at the Iſland of Guernſey, I had a Truſs purchaſed at London for me by Mr. Roſe, the King's Receiver in the Iſland; which I wore, but with great pain, for the ſpace of four years. I then got a Truſs which came from Chelſea Hoſpital, but with no better ſucceſs; until about a month ago, I purchaſed one from Mr. Brand, being a ſingle Truſs, and fitted for the right ſide, which has anſwered the intention, by giving me no pain in my walking, keeps up the rupture, and without the incumbrance of a thigh-

a thigh-ſtrap. This is atteſted to be truth by me, this 30th day of May, 1764.

Aberdeen. ALEXANDER FORBES.

The above declaration is atteſted by me, John Dyce, of Tilligrieg, one of his Majeſty's Juſtices of the Peace for the County of Aberdeen.

Aberdeen, May 30, 1764. JOHN DYCE, J. P.

I Doctor Thomas Livingſton, Phyſician to the Infirmary at Aberdeen, do hereby certify, that Robert Brand, cutler, in this city, has beſtowed great pains and attention in contriving a new conſtruction of Rupture-truſſes, which, for eaſe as well as prevention of the diſeaſe, ſeem to anſwer better than the ordinary Truſſes formerly in uſe; and it conſiſts with my particular knowledge, that many people have uſed them with great benefit and ſatisfaction.

Atteſted by THOMAS LIVINGSTON.

Aberdeen, June 2, 1764.

In

In January, 1765, the following Memorial was preſented to the *Edinburgh Society for the Encouragement of Arts, &c.* by Mr. Barclay, their Secretary.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I HUMBLY beg leave to repreſent to you, that ruptures are unfortunately too common: perhaps the fourth part of mankind labour under them in old age; and as to women who have had children, if half of them eſcape accidents of this kind, it is a miracle.

Being originally * a Cutler and Surgeon's Inſtrument-maker, and having been for many years afflicted with a rupture which greatly incommoded me in the neceſſary functions of life, I had recourſe to the various Truſſes and Bandages made uſe of for relieving that

* When I ſay *originally*, I would be underſtood, that was the firſt trade I followed: and I am not, I ought not to be aſhamed of ſaying, though I practiſed it ſome years with great ſucceſs, I was not regularly bred even to THAT, nor any other trade whatever.

mis-

misfortune, both from London and Paris; but finding them very incommodious as well as ineffectual, I applied myself with great attention to the improvement of those necessary contrivances; and, after many years repeated trials and many years experience, have at last happily succeeded; and so greatly improved the Steel Truss, as to make it answer every desireable purpose for the curing as well as palliating that troublesome disorder. Numbers as well as myself have experienced this, both here and in London; to authenticate which assertion, letters, should it be thought necessary, can be produced from patients residing at the above places.

The great advantages which my Trusses have, in consequence of this improvement, above all others, are as follow:

First, By an Elastic Spring, peculiar to themselves, they are accommodated equally well to persons of every age and size; so that two different sizes are the only requisite for making them fit every person of above seven years of age; and the same

circumſtance likewiſe makes them more proper for exportation than any hitherto invented.

Secondly, They do not require that troubleſome and incommodious appendage a thigh-ſtrap, ſo commonly uſed in other bandages.

Thirdly, They by the elaſticity above-mentioned, maintain a conſtant, equal, and uniform preſſure on the part only affected, and imitate the kind preſſure of the hand in all its degrees, in every different attitude of the body; whereby the parts forming the rupture, are ſo conſtantly kept from coming down, that an opportunity is given to the relaxed and ruptured parts through which they deſcend, to recover their former ſtate, and thereby prove to the patient, a radical cure.

Theſe, and other advantages too tedious to mention, convince me that this improvement, when generally known, will prove a very great benefit to a conſiderable part of mankind; and therefore I perſuade myſelf, that ſhould it meet with

your

your approbation, I ſhall not fail of ſharing that encouragement and generoſity which ſo highly diſtinguiſhes your honourable Society.

I am,
My Lords and Gentlemen,
With the moſt profound reſpect,
Your moſt obedient Servant,

Aberdeen,
Jan. 28, 1765.

ROBERT BRAND.

[*True Copy.*]

In Conſequence of preſenting the foregoing Memorial, I received the following LETTER:

To ROBERT BRAND, *Truſs-maker, in* Aberdeen.

SIR,

YOU here have the report Dr. Monro gives the Society of Arts, on the back of your Memorial, which I returned this day to Mr. Barclay, who ſaid it would make nothing as to premium. After his reſpect-

ful compliments to the Hon. Society, Dr. Monro ſays, "The Truſſes Mr. Brand preſents is no new invention, as there is of the ſame kind and ſame materials uſed by moſt ſurgeons in Europe for many years paſt: the only eſſential circumſtance is, the circular ſteel ſpring is more ſtrict than thoſe in common uſe, which makes them ſit eaſier on the patient, and better fit perſons of different ſizes." He adds, "That this laſt is ſcarce worth obſervation, as each perſon ought to have his meaſure taken in the moſt accurate manner."

Your moſt obedient Servant,

Edinburgh,
March 7, 1765. JOHN PIRRIE.

P. S. A few days after I delivered your Memorial to Mr. Barclay, he called at my houſe, and told me the Society had pitched on Dr. Monro to examine into the merits of your Truſſes; this I acquainted him of. On opening the box, taking them out, and ſhewing them to the Doctor, he ſaid they were made in the ſame manner as Mr. Auchinleck here

makes them. I ſaid there was a *great* difference. But ſtill the Doctor inſiſted there was *none*. On this, his ſon ſtept into another room, and brought out one of Auchinleck's making, and, on comparing them together, he confeſſed there *was* a difference.——Had he ſuffered as much pain with Truſſes as I have done, he would have ſeen it ſooner.

When perſons of confined ideas, and who have not the advantages of education, fall into an error, there is an excuſe ready for them; but the groſs miſtakes of a man of letters are unpardonable. Dr. Monro's miſapprehenſion indeed ſeems WILFUL. Could any thing be more uncandid than his declaration that my Truſſes and Mr. Auchinleck's were alike?——Could any thing be more mean than the hard-ſtrained acknowledgement, that "there was *ſome difference?*" In his report he ſays, "That my Truſs differs from others only in the circular ſteel-ſpring being more ſtrict than thoſe in common uſe, which makes them ſit *eaſier*, and better fit perſons of *different ſizes*;" but this *eaſe* and this *convenience*,

mience, it ſeems, are not worth thinking of, becauſe "each perſon ought to have his meaſure taken in the moſt accurate manner."——Fine reaſoning indeed!—I frequently ſend Truſſes to the Eaſt and Weſt Indies; and were Dr. Monro living, I would aſk him, If I ſhould make a voyage every time I receive an order for a truſs?

THIS is to certify, that I have frequently recommended Mr. Robert Brand, Truſs-maker, whoſe bandages always gave great ſatisfaction to my patients, and to me.

R. BROMFIELD.

Gerard-ſtreet,
July 18. 1766.

To Mr. BRAND, *in Great Peter-ſtreet, Weſtminſter.*

SIR,

THE machine you left with me, does its office very well, and ſits eaſy.

Your humble Servant,

Greenwich,
Aug. , 1765.

J. B.

To

To Mr. BRAND, *in Great Peter-ſtreet, Weſtminſter.*

Mr. BRAND,

AFTER a variety of Truſſes I have made uſe of from different perſons recommended to me by a ſurgeon of great character in town, which did not do their office, yours that I have now on, and have worn conſtantly nine or ten weeks, not only fully anſwers its purpoſe of keeping the gut up, but ſits very eaſy, and is attended with little or no trouble.

Greenwich, Sept. 11, 1765.

J. BRAND, Counſellor at Law.

ON the recommendation of Dr. Hunter, I made uſe of Mr. Brand's Elaſtic Truſs, to a youth about ſeven years of age, who had been afflicted with a Scrotal Rupture for two or three years. I had uſed in the courſe of that time ſeveral ineffectual means without ſucceſs: yours he

wore

wore with great eaſe, and entirely prevented any return of the diſorder.

Witneſs my hand, this 27th day of February, 1766.

W. TAYLER,
Late Surgeon of the Dock-Yard at Woolwich,
And now Surgeon of Greenwich Hoſpital.

THESE are to certify, that I have ſeen Mr. Brand's bandages for Ruptures, and that, from the ſeveral opportunities I have had for them, find they anſwer better than any other I had occaſion to uſe.

Strand,
June 2, 1766.

W. NORTON,
Navy Surgeon.

THESE are to certify, that I have ſeen and carefully examined the Elaſtic Bandages for Ruptures, made by Robert Brand, of Peter-ſtreet, Weſtminſter, Truſs-maker, and am of opinion, that they are neat and ſtrong in their conſtruction, very

ry

ry ingenious in their contrivance, and more peculiarly adapted to the ſeveral purpoſes of a Truſs, than any other bandage I have ever ſeen.

Given under my hand, this 18th day of July, 1766.

St. Martin's Lane. C. KELLY, M. D.

HAVING made uſe of the Truſſes made by Mr. Brand, on ſome patients afflicted with Ruptures, I think it no more than a piece of juſtice due to his ingenuity, to acknowledge, that they have ſucceeded very well in fulfilling the intention for which they were applied; nor have I ever ſeen any Truſſes which I ſhould prefer to them.

W. HEWSON,

Surgeon, in Argyle-Buildings, Oxford-Road.

July 17, 1766.

THESE are to certify the governors of the royal hoſpital at Greenwich, that I have ſeen ſeveral inſtances of Ruptures,

where the patients have unſucceſsfully made uſe of ſeveral operators Truſſes, which were painful and uneaſy to them; and afterwards being adviſed to uſe Mr. Brand's Elaſtic ones, they found ſpeedy eaſe, and no pain therefrom; and, in my opinion, his deſerves the preference of all other Truſſes.

Savoy, Aug. 29. 1766.

T. POOLE,
Surgeon of the Royal Navy.

I HAVE ſeen ſome inſtances where Mr. Brand's Elaſtic Truſſes have been ſucceſsful, where others have failed.

Aug. 20. 1766.

E. BARRY, M. D.
Now in Bath,

I HAVE ſeen ſome inſtances where Mr. Brand's Elaſtic Truſſes have been ſucceſsful, where others have failed; therefore I think they deſerve peculiar notice.

St. Alban's-ſtreet, Aug. 29, 1766.

F. PINKSTON.
Surgeon.

THESE

THESE are to certify, that I recommended a patient to Mr. Brand, who had been afflicted from his infancy with an inguinal Rupture, and had tried all means for a cure, with the different ſorts of Truſſes, without ſucceſs, giving him great pain in wearing them, ſo that he was often obliged to leave them off, and his Rupture would as often come down; but, after applying Mr. Brand's Truſs, he found, to his great ſatisfaction, that he could wear it with great eaſe, and declared himſelf much obliged to the ingenious author of ſuch a Truſs, from which he had found ſo much relief.

As witneſs my hand,

HUGH CRAWFORD, M. D.

Leiceſter-Fields,
Aug. 25. 1766.

In the caſe referred to by this gentleman, on reducing the Rupture, if great care was not taken to divide the teſticle from it, the latter would follow the former into the belly.

THIS is to certify that I have often examined, and ſeen applied, Mr. Brand's Steel Truſſes, and I do imagine that they are better adapted for the cure of Ruptures than any I have ſeen.

JOHN HUNTER,
Surgeon.

Now in Jermyn-Street,
Aug. 24, 1766.

I Hereby certify, that after having recommended various ſorts of Truſſes to my patients, I can find none ſo eaſy to the wearers, or ſo well adapted to the relief of their diſorders, as the Elaſtic Truſſes made by Mr. Brand, of Peter-ſtreet, Weſtminſter.

C. HALE,
Surgeon.

Parliament-Street,
Aug. 25, 1766.

To Mr. ROBERT BRAND, *at* No. 31, *Long-Acre.*

SIR,

A Short time ſince, I deſired my brother to call on you for an Elaſtic Steel Truſs, for a patient I have here. During the time he has uſed it, has found the greateſt benefit. Have reaſon to think he will get a perfect cure, by perſevering in the uſe of it. This morning, as he was applying it as uſual, the part broke as you ſee, which beg you to get mended, and ſend to the bearer for conveyance to,

SIR,

Axminſter, Your moſt humble Servant,
Feb. 11, 1771. WILLIAM ROBBINS.

To Mr. BRAND, No. 31. *Long-Acre, London.*

SIR,

I Yeſterday read your Book, that you have lately wrote on Ruptures, which was purchaſed

purchaſed for me at Mr. Bladon's, Paternoſter Row, and which in my opinion (if nothing but matters of fact are inſerted) very juſtly intitles you to the thanks of all men, in particular the afflicted, of which number I am; and do therefore moſt ſincerely return you thanks. I have been afflicted with a Rupture (at times) for more than theſe twenty years paſt, and do really believe, that had I ever been furniſhed with a proper Truſs (before now) I had been perfectly cured; inſtead of which, I have been ſo far from meeting with any aſſiſtance from the vain boaſting of other people, that I never as yet could get a Truſs, in which there was either eaſe, or ſafety; and have therefore, and do to this hour, labour under the diſagreeable neceſſity of wearing one, (made by a taylor) according to my own directions; and which is no more than double dimity, and goes round the waiſt, with a pad ſewed to it, to keep the Rupture up, and on that a ſtrap, which comes under my left thigh, and faſtens to the dimity on the left ſide. —My Rupture is on the right ſide, but I tye it under the left thigh; as by that means,

means, the penis prevents it from drawing out of its place: upon the whole, Sir, I do aſſure you, that it is but of very little uſe to me; for when I cough, or ſneeze much, or get a bad cold, I am ſure to have it come down, and I muſt confeſs that it is never kept in its proper place; ſo that I am often, eſpecially in hot weather, obliged to go up ſtairs, and lay on my back, which when I do, it immediately returns, which makes me think that if I had met with proper aſſiſtance, I ſhould have been well. For four years together, I found it no trouble to me, notwithſtanding I was on horſeback every day; which I have left off for theſe two years paſt, ſince which, I have been inclinable to a conſumption, and am at preſent in a very low condition, and my Rupture much worſe than when I was in perfect health.

In your book you informed me, how you have been uſed; pardon me, Sir, if I intrude on your patience (as a fellow-ſufferer) to let you know how I have been dealt with.—After wearing a bandage made by

by a woman in this town, which did not do, I was adviſed to go to one Nicholſon, in a court near the King's Arms, Newgate-ſtreet, who like a villain, (for he deſerves no other name) put me on Bandages that wrung me as bad as any poſt-chaiſe horſe is wrung by a harneſs; and to complete the affair, put plaſters on my groin, that after I had worn a few hours, run, and ſtuck like bird-lime; ſo that I was as far from receiving any benefit for the money I paid, that I would not go through the pain and trouble again for fifty pounds. Within theſe two years, I was deſired by Dr. Sharp (who was on a viſit in the country, and who ſaw my Rupture) to apply to a man, who lives in Bartholomew-cloſe. I accordingly took a journey to London, but muſt confeſs that I did not call on Dr. Sharp; as upon examining the Truſſes, and talking with the man (whoſe name I really forget) there did not appear to me, a rational probability of their being of any ſervice to me; for in the firſt place, I convinced him before his face, that his Truſs would not keep up my Rupture, and in the next place, that if it did, it was ſo

cumberſome

cumberſome, I never could conſent to wear it. From thence I went to a ſhop in Fleet-ſtreet, but did not meet with the leſt encouragement: I never heard any thing of you, Sir, till reading of you in the papers. I wiſh I had: I wou'd have called on you when in London; and deſign, if pleaſe God I live, to come if it is only to ſee your Truſſes, and ſpend an hour with you. I am no ſurgeon, Sir, but Providence has bleſſed me with a common ſhare of underſtanding, and has taught me that health is the greateſt bleſſing of life; and although I am only a tradeſman, I would willingly be at any neceſſary expence, that might be the means of getting me well of my Rupture. I will ſee your Truſſes, and have one or two made me, and ſhall be glad, Sir, if you will be ſo obliging as to inform me of the price of them, and whether there is an abſolute neceſſity of my coming to you; and if a perſon can ride eaſy, and whether they are to be taken off every night, as my Rupture is eaſily returned; hope there is no occaſion for a very thick pad, as I have ſeen ſome, that I ſhould ſuppoſe muſt be in great danger,

from running againſt things. I beg pardon for taking up ſo much of your time; and ſhall be very glad to hear from you, and do you any ſervice in my power.

I am, Sir,

Your moſt obedient, humble ſervant,

GEO. REYNOLDS.

P. S. Nicholls told me, the cure depended principally upon the plaſter, but I found (when too late) that he was only a pretender. I ſerved my time in Fenchurch Street, London; during which I was often troubled with my rupture; which acquainting my friends with, they got me a letter of recommendation to one of the king's ſurgeons, who then lived in Saliſbury Court, and who, as a gentleman and a friend, adviſed me to have nothing to do with any quack, nor take any medicine whatever, unleſs I was remarkably coſtive; but only to waſh the parts with cold water, and get a proper bandage; the latter of which I have ſought for, but could not attain.

Feverſham,
21ſt March, 1771.

POSTSCRIPT.

HAVING received ſeveral letters containing the moſt illiberal abuſe, in conſequence of the publication of the preceding pages, ſome of which I have reaſon to ſuppoſe were written by Counſellor Brand's *Surgeon of Character*.* ; I think it neceſſary to declare, that I never intended, nor indeed, could I form the leaſt idea, that the Treatiſe in queſtion could give the ſmalleſt offence to any gentleman of the faculty. My ſole object was—the relief of my fellow-creatures, and the inſtruction of the ignorant in a diſorder which it is neceſſary they ſhould know. Beſides improving the practice of the faculty, I have a right to their thanks, for pointing out the moſt efficacious cure of a malady, from which *they themſelves* are by no means exempt, and which the moſt eminent of them have removed with great difficulty. Numbers have, within theſe few years, loſt their

* See Page 31.

lives by this, after having paid very conſiderable ſums for pretended aſſiſtance, and ineffectual advice. It is intereſt, then, alone that prevents theſe cavillers from doing juſtice to my invention, and which prompts them to cheat the diſordered of aſſiſtance.

Notwithſtanding that the *true method* of applying Truſſes, *or reducing Ruptures*, is a matter of the utmoſt importance in the treatment of that malady, and in the higheſt degree conducive to the eaſe of the patient, I can ſafely ſay, that in all the treatiſes I have peruſed, both ancient, and modern (and they are not a few), I never met with any thing like a clear inſtruction to that purpoſe.——Something *curious*, though by no means advantageous, may be collected from a book lately publiſhed. The author, Mr. Arnaud, pompouſly deſigns himſelf "Maſter of Arts and Surgery, Member of the Royal Academy of Surgery at Paris, Demonſtrator in the School of St. Come, Surgeon for Ruptures of the Hoſpitals of Hotel Dieu, the Invalids and Incurables, of the city of Paris, and of all the

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Military Hoſpitals in France." A proceſs is there adviſed for making an ointment of the ſolution of gold and oriental pearls, to be uſed for aſſiſting the reduction of ſtrangulated Ruptures.—When this ingenious and moſt expenſive preparation is compleated, it will probably be as efficacious as the ſame quantity of clay, applied in the ſame manner.

I hoped in the treatiſes above hinted at, to have found ſomething that would, at leaſt, have been capable of improving me in the true method of applying Truſſes, and reducing Ruptures:—On the contrary, they contain merely long and unſatisfactory details of the manner in which the ancient ſurgeons commonly burnt the Ruptures of their patients, and deſtroyed the fleſh of thoſe parts to the bone, with a view of avoiding the more neceſſary application of Truſſes.—This is one proof, among many, that ſuch quacks never encouraged Truſſes, although it is univerſally acknowledged that it is impoſſible a cure can be perfectly obtained without them. ——The pain attending the wearing of ſome Truſſes, it muſt be acknowledged,

ed, has prevented many perſons from applying for this moſt ſalutary method of cure; but ſuch neglect is often attended with the moſt dreadful conſequences; it being no uncommon thing to meet perſons in the ſtreet, whoſe guts partly falling into their breeches, exhibit a deplorable and pitiable ſpectacle.

And here it may not be improper to inform the reader of the encouragement I received from the faculty on my arrival in London, which was in June, 1764. Mr. Ranby being the only gentleman of the profeſſion I had the honour of knowing, I waited upon him; and, by his deſire, afterwards attended the gentlemen of St. George's Hoſpital. With the countenance of ſuch a gentleman as Mr. Ranby, whoſe name and letter to me at Aberdeen I had the liberty to make uſe of, I could not but form the moſt pleaſing hopes of convincing ſome of the firſt ſurgeons in England of the merit and utility of my Truſſes.—But I was diſappointed: I found, though they were men of learning, they were not men of candour.—Mr. Bromfield ſaid, "He

"He believed they *might do*." Mr. Gataker ſaid, "He could ſee nothing more in *my* Truſſes than in *any other*." However, while I was one day attending a perſon then under the care of Mr. Hawkins, he informed me that he had long been an out-patient of St. George's Hoſpital, and had truſſes from every truſs-maker in town, but that none of them would keep his rupture up; and that, ſince he had been under Mr. Hawkins's care, he had procured him a truſs from a perſon in Bartholomew-cloſe, which would by no means keep up his Rupture, though he had been to the maker twenty times to have it altered, who told him his rupture would never be well till it was cut. I looked upon this as an opportunity offered me by Providence, of at once doing a ſervice to a fellow-creature, and convincing thoſe of the uſe of my Elaſtic Truſſes, who had either ignorantly or intereſtedly denied their merit. Accordingly I brought the youth to my lodgings, and applied a truſs on him: in a ſhort time my endeavours had the deſired effect; and, in about three months, he was completely cured.

Leſt

Leſt any of my readers ſhould doubt the truth of this relation, I beg leave to refer them to Mr. Petteſt, Downe-ſtreet, Hyde-Park Corner, who is uncle to the young man, and of the ſame name. This very Caſe is likewiſe taken notice of in the minutes of St. George's Hoſpital, beginning of April 1764, to the end of Auguſt in the ſame year.

In Mr. Pott's Treatiſe on Ruptures, 2d edit. ſect. i. p. 29. that gentleman ſays, "The cure of a Rupture is either perfect, (called alſo radical) or imperfect, which is called palliative. This diſtinction, which, he ſays, is juſt and true, and founded both on reaſon and experience, has frequently been miſunderſtood by the generality of mankind, and has therefore been the cauſe of much undeſerved cenſure on the practitioners of Surgery." He adds, "The truth is, that, though the events are extremely different, yet the chirurgical means which are made uſe of in either caſe, are exactly the ſame, viz. the reduction of the ruptured parts, and retention of them when ſo reduced, by proper bandages."—

I wiſh

I wiſh Mr. Pott had given the addreſs of his *proper Bandage-maker*, as Dr. Smellie did of his proper Midwifery Inſtrument-maker. I could never find thoſe bandages at the *Shoemaker*'s, nor at the RUPTURE-CURER's, who has his name diſtinguiſhed in the Court and City Regiſter. Convinced at leaſt of their politeneſs in thus dignifying a man who has little pretenſion to public favour, I had no doubt but that the compilers, or compilers' directors, had complimented me with a ſimilar appellation; but I was again miſtaken: I found *my* deſert would barely procure me the title of plain *Truſs-maker*. But, when I was appointed Truſs-maker to Greenwich Hoſpital, I could not find one in twenty of the ruptured men in that place who could wear the truſſes made by my predeceſſor; and thoſe who did wear them, were ſo miſerably fretted and galled on their hips and loins, that they were obliged to attend the ſurgeon every morning to have their wounds dreſſed: ſo that, by my appointment to the Hoſpital, I had the pleaſure not only of relieving the diſeaſed men from the miſery they ſuffered by the iron truſſes before made uſe of, but alſo

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prevented the ſurgeons from being troubled with many complaints, beſides ſaving the houſe a very conſiderable expence.

Being, about twenty-eight years ſince, afflicted with a Rupture myſelf, (ſome time before I invented the Elaſtic Truſs), I conſented to become a patient to Meſſ. Woodward and Hunt, and, from a ſtrict attention to their method, I am enabled to give the Reader ſome idea of it. The firſt object then with them was, to examine the patient with reſpect to his—circumſtances. If he would part freely with his money, they firſt applied a linen bandage, and ſhortly after informed him, that was not ſufficient of itſelf to perform the cure, and that they muſt call in the aſſiſtance of proper medicines, with which they would furniſh him at one guinea per month.—And in this way did they cajole me out of fourteen guineas, and my rupture was greatly worſe at the year's end, than when firſt I became their patient.

With reſpect to myſelf, without a vain pretence to a thorough knowledge of Surgery, it is my boaſt, that a ſtudious application, long experience, and, above all,

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a ſtrict adherence to the principles of humanity, have now fixed me in a moſt extenſive practice. That there are many perſons who bear me ill-will, I have no doubt; but I have the conſolation, that, in this caſe, thoſe who are *my* enemies are the enemies of Society.—I deſpiſe the reflections thrown out againſt me on account of my former profeſſions: ſuch reflections are at once a proof of ill manners and ill principles. The good and ſenſible will acknowledge, that it is as poſſible for a ſoldier to attain a knowledge of the true method of reducing Ruptures and applying truſſes, as it was for Friar Jacques to diſcover the proper manner of cutting for the ſtone; for a prieſt to inſtruct the world in the uſe of gun-powder; or a ſoldier to invent the important and uſeful art of printing. From a conviction that the pupils in the different hoſpitals in town ſeldom have an opportunity of ſeeing a rupture, and from a deſire to render a knowledge of its proper treatment more general; I ſome time ago gave them an invitation to ſee me perform the operation of reducing ruptures, and the retention of them when ſo

reduced by applying truſſes; which is the only proper remedy, at all ages, and in all ſtates. At the ſame time I produced a number of caſes, ſome of which were acknowledged by Mr. Hunter to be the moſt ſingular he remembered ever to have met with.—However, even this could not eſcape cenſure;—an undiſtinguiſhing haughtineſs conſtrued it an affront—and I was informed, that if I perſiſted in that practice, it would greatly offend the Faculty. To exculpate myſelf from the leaſt deſign of giving offence, I ſhall only refer to the feelings of every candid reader, while I aſſure them that nothing induced me but a regard to the intereſts of my fellow-creatures; and a thorough conviction of—every other method of cure being altogether ineffectual.

It may not be improper to obſerve, that different methods of cure indeed have had the ſanction of antiquity, and have been deſcribed and practiſed by many of the old ſurgeons; the principal of theſe, or they which are moſt worthy of notice, are the cure by the red hot cautery, and burning medicines, the cure by cauſtic, that

by

by caſtration, the punctum aureum, the royal ſtitch, and the cure by inciſion.

The mere relation of one of theſe methods of cure is ſufficient to ſhock any humane or feeling perſon. If the preſervation of life was the object, ſomething might be ſaid in their vindication; but as they were only had recourſe to, merely to ſave the trouble of wearing the then ill-contrived truſs, it is preſumed, now that a truſs anſwering every purpoſe, is invented, that none of theſe barbarous methods of cure will ever be revived.

I ſhall now ſubjoin a few caſes, and, for the preſent, take my leave,—wiſhing thoſe who condemn from ignorance, more knowledge;—thoſe who aſperſe from malevolence more good-nature, and thoſe who find fault through prejudice, more candor and good ſenſe.

CASES.

CASES.

CASE I.

ON the 20th Jan. 1771, one of the inpenſioners of Greenwich Hoſpital applied to me for a truſs for a double rupture. Upon examining him, I found the rupture only ſingle, and in the right groin; in the left groin, the teſticle lying in an oval figure, acroſs the orifice, where a rupture generally deſcends, and no appearance of the ſcrotum on the left ſide of the penis. This moſt extraordinary ſituation was occaſioned, he informed me, by a fall acroſs the gunnel of a boat about twelve months before. When the truſs was properly applied, the bandage did not in the ſmalleſt degree compreſs the teſticle oppoſite to the rupture; and a palliative cure was immediately effected. Thoſe who doubt the authenticity of this relation, are intreated to refer to the cheque-book, which is kept in the Surgery of the above mentioned Hoſpital.

CASE

CASE II.

On the 7th Nov. 1770, a poor man, recommended by Mr. Ben. Morris, overſeer of the poor of St. Luke's, Middleſex, came to me for aſſiſtance. He ſaid, That about ten months before that time, he felt ſomething in his groin which was not then attended with any pain: however, it by degrees increaſed, grew very painful, and much larger; and that it frequently made him ſo ſick, that nothing would ſtay on his ſtomach; inſomuch that he was often incapable of working for his bread;—for when he was in an upright poſture, his Rupture would ſometimes fall down with ſuch violence as to burſt open the flap of his breeches. I applied a Truſs; and when I ſaw him, (about two months after) he informed me, that ever ſince I had applied the Truſs to his Rupture, it had not fallen down once, nor had he loſt one day's work. Any perſon doubting this, may be ſatisfied of the truth of the caſe, by applying to Mr. Morris, above mentioned, or at my houſe, where they will be ſhewn a letter of thanks from the patient himſelf.

CASE

CASE III.

THOMAS WEST, a young man about twenty, applied to me on the 24th of December, 1770, for relief in the caſe of a Rupture, which he had for the ſpace of ſix years. At that time it had increaſed to the ſize of eight inches circumference from the teſticles above the os pubis. I reduced it all, and applied a Truſs thereon, at the ſame time informed him in what manner he ſhould proceed to obtain a perfect cure. In about ten days he came to me again, ſaid he had been very punctual in obſerving my directions, and that he was completely cured, notwithſtanding he had uſed all manner of common exerciſe. He then pulled off his Truſs, coughed and blowed his noſe in a violent manner, and ſaid there was no occaſion for wearing the truſs any longer. I aſked him, If wearing it gave him any pain; he replied, No; accordingly I ordered him not to leave it off for a few months.——This extraordinary caſe can be authenticated by applying to Mr. Weſt, Lighterman, in King-ſtreet, Deptford, who is brother to the patient.

CASE IV.

In the year 1769, a lad of twelve years of age was brought to me by Mr. Macquire, Peruke-maker, of Hedge-lane. When I examined him, I found the Rupture, which was in the right groin, prodigiouſly large, with the teſticle at the lower extremity of it: the left teſticle was confined in the abdomen, and had been ſo ever ſince he could remember. By the proper application of my Elaſtic Truſs, he obtained a radical cure in about nine months; the right teſticle at that time remaining in its proper and natural ſtate in the ſcrotum. I then told him he might lay the Truſs aſide. In a few months after, Mr. Macquire brought the boy to me again; ſaid his Rupture was extremely bad, and that he muſt have another Truſs.——On examining him, ſo far from having a Rupture, his right teſticle had followed the Rupture into the abdomen, and, with the left, remains in that ſtate to this day; and what is ſtill more remarkable, there is not the ſmalleſt appearance of the ſcrotum, although the penis remains in its natural ſtate.

Theſe, and a great number of other caſes, equally uncommon, might be adduced as proofs of the utility of the Elaſtic Truſs, and of its ſuperiority over every other thing, in the cure of Ruptures; but as theſe and the foregoing teſtimonies are deemed ſufficient to convince the public of the propriety of this method of cure, it is deemed altogether unneceſſary to dwell any longer on the ſubject.

THE END.